

throat and centre of the abdomen greyish white, passing into pale buff on the flanks and under tail-coverts; bill and feet blackish brown.

Habitat, Patagonia.

This bird, though forming a well-marked genus, is in many respects, even in plumage, allied to *Furnarius* and *Opetiorhynchus*,—for instance, in the streak over its eyes, in the red band on its wings extending obliquely from the body to the third primary, and to some of the species of these genera in its rather plumose feathers. In its general manners, the same resemblance, together with some differences, always struck me. It lives entirely on the ground, and generally in dry sterile situations, where it haunts the scattered thickets, and often flies from one to another. When skulking about the bushes it cocks up its tail, imitating in this respect *Pterotochos* and *Rhinomya*. Its cry is shrill, quickly reiterated, and very similar to that of several species of *Furnarius* and *Opetiorhynchus*. The stomach of one which I opened was full of *Coleoptera*. I procured specimens from three places on the coast of Patagonia; namely, Port Desire, St. Julian, and Santa Cruz; but it is nowhere common. I likewise saw it at a considerable elevation in the eastern valleys of the barren Cordillera, near Mendoza.

*RHINOMYA LANCEOLATA.* *Is. Geoffr. & D'Orb.*

*Rhinomya lanceolata.* *Is. Geoffr. & D'Orb.* Voy. de l'Amer. Mer. pl. 7. f. 1. 1832, cl. 11. pl. 3. id.—Mag. de Zool. 1832, 11. pl. 3. and 1837, p. 15.

I procured a specimen of this bird from the Rio Negro in Northern Patagonia, and I never saw one any where else; and M. D'Orbigny makes the same remark. On the Atlantic side of the continent, it replaces the several species of *Pterotochos* which live on the shores of the Pacific. Its habits, in some respects, are similar; it lives at the bottom of hedges or thickets, where it runs with such quickness, that it might easily be mistaken for a rat. It is very unwilling to take flight, so that, I was assured by some of the inhabitants, that it could not fly, which, however, is a mistake. It frequently utters a loud and very singular cry. The *Rhinomya* is distantly allied to the *Eremobius phœnicurus*, which is found in Southern Patagonia, whose habits in some respects are similar.

1. *PTEROPTOCHOS TARNII.* *G. R. Gray.*

*Hylactes Tarnii.* *Vigors*, Proc. Zool. 1830.

*Megalonyx ruficeps.* *D'Orb. & Lafr.* Mag. de Zool. 1837, p. 15.

*Leptonyx Tarnii.* *D'Orb. & Lafr.* Voy. de l'Amer. Mer. Av. p. 198, pl. viii. f. 1.

This species, as well as several others of the genus, and likewise of *Scytalopus* are confined to the west coast of South America. The *P. Tarnii* ranges from the

neighbourhood of Concepcion, lat. 37°, to south of the Peninsula of Tres Montes, between 41° and 50°. It is not found in Tierra del Fuego, where the climate probably is too cold for it, for in other respects, the great forests of that country appear admirably adapted to its habits. Its limit, northward of the province of Concepcion, is evidently due to the change which there takes place, from dense forests to an open and dry country. The *P. Tarnii* is abundant in all parts of the Island of Chiloe, where it is called by the native Indians, *guid-guid*; but by the English sailors, the barking-bird. This latter name is very well applied, for the noise which it utters is precisely like the yelping of a small dog. When a person is walking along a pathway within the forest, or on the sea-beach, he will often be surprised to hear on a sudden, close by him, the barking of the *guid-guid*. He may often watch in vain the thicket, whence the sound proceeds, in hopes of seeing its author, and if he endeavour, by beating the bushes, to drive it out, his chance of success will be still smaller. At other times, by standing quietly within the forest, the *guid-guid* will fearlessly hop close to him, and will stand on the trunk of some dead tree, with its tail erect, and strange figure full in view. It feeds exclusively on the ground, in the thickest and most entangled parts of the forest. It rarely takes wing, and then only for short distances. It has the power of hopping quickly and with great vigour; when thus awkwardly proceeding, it carries its short tail in a nearly erect position. I was informed that the *guid-guid*, builds a nest amongst rotten sticks, close to the ground.

2. *PTEROPTOCHOS MEGAPODIUS.* *Kittl.*

*Pterotochos megapodius.* *Kittl.* 1830, Mem. de l'Acad. 1, pl. iv. et Vogel. von Chili, p. 10, pl. iv.

*Megalonyx rufus.* *Less.* Cent. Zool. 1831, pl. 66.

*D'Orb. & Lafr.*

*Leptonyx macropus.* *Swains.* Zool. Ill. pl. 117.

*D'Orb. & Lafr.* Voy. de l'Amer. Mer. Av. 197.

This bird is common in the dry country of central and northern Chile, where it replaces the *P. Tarnii* of the thickly wooded southern regions. The *P. megapodius*, is called by the Chilenos, "*El Turco*;" it lives on the ground amongst the bushes which are sparingly scattered over the stony hills. With its tail erect, every now and then it may be seen popping on its stilt-like legs from one bush to another with uncommon celerity. Its appearance is very strange and almost ludicrous, and the bird seems always anxious to hide itself. It does not run, but hops, and can hardly be compelled to take flight. The various loud cries which it utters, when concealed in the bushes, are as strange as its appearance. I opened the extremely muscular gizzards of several of these birds, and found them filled with beetles, vegetable fibres, and pebbles. Observing the structure of the gizzard, the